

Message Text

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64

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-07 INR-07 LAB-04

NSAE-00 SIL-01 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 L-03 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 SAM-01 /073 W

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R 191933Z OCT 76

FM AMEMBASSY MADRID

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7579

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ELAB, SP

SUBJECT: LABOR UNITY OF ACTION GROUP CALLS FOR "DAY OF STOPPAGES"

NOV. 12

REF: MADRID 7892

1. AS FLAGGED IN REFTTEL, ON OCT. 18 THE COS (COORDINADORA DE ORGANIZACIONES SINDICALES- THE NATIONAL "UNITY OF ACTION" MECHANISM GROUPING THE SOCIALIST UGT, CHRISTIAN SOCIALIST USO, AND COMMUNIST-DOMINATED WORKERS COMMISSIONS-SWC) CALLED FOR A 24-HOUR "DAY OF STOPPAGES" ON NOVEMBER 12 TO
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PROTEST THE GOVT'S RECENTLY ANNOUNCED ECONOMIC MEASURES.

A COS COMMUNIQUE ALSO LISTED THE "CONCRETE DEMANDS" WHICH SHOULD BE SUPPORTED ON THAT DAY: A) TO COUNTER THE "WAGE FREEZE," AN ACROSS-THE-BOARD WAGE INCREASE (PRESUMABLY MONTHLY) OF PTAS. 6000 (APPROX. US \$88.24); B) TO COUNTER UNEMPLOYMENT, SUFFICIENT JOBS AND UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE FOR ALL; C) TO COUNTER FREEDOM OF DISMISSAL, JOB SECURITY AND LABOR AMNESTY; AND D) TO COUNTER THE PROPOSED LABOR REFORM, THE DISAPPEARANCE OF THE OFFICIAL SPANISH SYNDICAL ORGANIZATION (SSO) AND TRADE UNION FREEDOM.

2. THE COS PROPOSED THE IMMEDIATE INITIATION OF A CAMPAIGN OF ASSEMBLIES AND MEETINGS IN FACTORIES TO EXPLAIN THE IMPORT OF THE GOVT MEASURES, AND ALSO THE INITIATION OF CONVERSATIONS WITH MANAGEMENT (AT THE FACTORY LEVEL) IN ORDER TO FIND A NEGOTIATED WAY OUT AND "AVOID REPRISALS WHICH WOULD ENLARGE CONFLICTS AND AUGMENT THEIR COST."

3. COMMENT. THE BASIC DEMANDS LISTED BY COS ARE SO GENERAL (IF NOT SIMPLISTIC) IN NATURE AS TO BE ACCEPTABLE TO THE VAST MAJORITY OF SPANISH WORKERS. LABOR OBSERVERS POINT OUT THAT THE COS HAS TAKEN PAINS TO STRESS ITS CONCERN THAT THE "DAY OF STOPPAGES" AND ANY PREPARATORY ACTIVITIES REMAIN UNDER CONTROL AND TAKE PLACE IN A PEACEFUL ATMOSPHERE. THE CAUTIOUS AND LIMITED NATURE OF THE PROPOSED PROTEST INDICATES COS AWARENESS THAT THE CURRENT CLIMATE (IS NOT CONDUCTIVE TO ANY MASSIVE STREET DEMONSTRATIONS OR CALLS TO THE BARRICADES. THE COMING DAYS WILL PERHAPS PROVIDE SOME CLUES AS TO HOW EXTENSIVE LABOR'S RESPONSE TO THIS CALL MIGHT BE.
STABLER

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